



MISSISSIPPI TIDELANDS TRUST FUND PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 2015 Applicant Package

Contains:

- Instructions for Completing DMR Form TTF-1
- Selection Criteria
- DMR Form TTF-1 (Request for Funding Application)
- DMR Form TTF-2 (Application Summary)

Department of Marine Resources
Tidelands Office
1141 Bayview Avenue
Biloxi, MS 39530
228-374-5000

Each political subdivision receiving Tidelands funds is responsible for complying with Section 29-15-9 and Section 29-15-19, Mississippi Code of 1972:

§ 29-15-9. Public Trust Tidelands Fund; distribution of funds derived from lease rentals of tidelands and submerged lands; disbursement of funds appropriated as separate line items in appropriation bill.

- 1) There is created in the State Treasury a special fund to be known as the "Public Trust Tidelands Fund." The fund shall be administered by the Secretary of State as trustee.
- 2) Any funds derived from lease rentals of tidelands and submerged lands, except those funds derived from mineral leases, or funds previously specifically designated to be applied to other agencies, shall be transferred to the special fund. However, funds derived from lease rentals may be used to cover the administrative cost incurred by the Secretary of State. Any remaining funds derived from lease rentals shall be disbursed pro rata to the local taxing authorities for the replacement of lost ad valorem taxes, if any. Then, any remaining funds shall be disbursed to the commission for new and extra programs of tidelands management, such as conservation, reclamation, preservation, acquisition, education or the enhancement of public access to the public trust tidelands or public improvement projects as they relate to those lands.
- 3) Any funds that are appropriated as separate line items in an appropriation bill for tideland programs or projects authorized under this section for political subdivisions or other agencies shall be disbursed as provided in this subsection.
 - a) The Department of Marine Resources shall make progress payments in installments based on the work completed and material used in the performance of a tidelands project only after receiving written verification from the political subdivision or agency. The political subdivision or agency shall submit verification of the work completed or materials in such detail and form that the department may require.
 - b) The Department of Marine Resources shall make funds available for the purpose of using such funds as a match or leverage for federal or other funds that are available for the designated tidelands project.

Sources: Laws, 1989, ch. 495, § 6; Laws, 1994, ch. 578, § 53; Laws, 2002, ch. 474, § 1, eff from and after passage (approved Mar. 27, 2002.)

§ 29-15-10. Public Trust Tidelands Assessments Fund; purpose of fund; distribution of funds derived from certain assessments on gaming licensees; disbursement of funds appropriated as separate line items in an appropriation bill.

- 1) There is created in the State Treasury a special fund to be known as the "Public Trust Tidelands Assessments Fund." The purpose of the fund is to ensure that monies derived from the public trust tidelands assessments shall be used for the benefit of preserving and protecting the tidelands and submerged lands found within the three (3) most southern counties of the state. One (1) specific purpose of the fund is to ensure that the annual payment made by the state for the purchase of Deer Island shall continue uninterrupted until the purchase transaction is completed. The fund shall be administered by the Secretary of State, as trustee. None of the funds that are in the special fund or that are required to be deposited into the special fund shall be transferred, diverted or in any other manner expended or used for any purpose other than those purposes specified in this section.
- 2)
 - a) Any funds derived from assessments made pursuant to Section 29-1-107(4) (c) shall be deposited into the special fund.
 - b) Funds paid pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subsection may be appropriated by the Legislature in an amount necessary to cover the administrative cost incurred by the Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources. Any remaining funds shall be disbursed by the commission for new and extra programs of tidelands management, such as conservation, reclamation, preservation, acquisition, education or the enhancement of public access to the public trust tidelands or public improvement projects as they relate to those lands.

- 3) Any funds that are appropriated as separate line items in an appropriation bill for tideland programs or projects authorized under this section for political subdivisions or other agencies shall be disbursed as provided in this subsection.
 - a) The Department of Marine Resources shall make progress payments in installments based on the work completed and material used in the performance of a tidelands project only after receiving written verification from the political subdivision or agency. The political subdivision or agency shall submit verification of the work completed or materials in such detail and form that the department may require.
 - b) The Department of Marine Resources shall make funds available for the purpose of using such funds as a match or leverage for federal or other funds that are available for the designated tidelands project.

Sources: Laws, 2005, 5th Ex Sess, ch. 15, § 2, eff from and after passage (approved Oct. 17, 2005.)

In addition to compliance with the above provisions, political subdivisions awarded funding will also be subject to an audit by the State Auditor. Also, detailed reports and copies of invoices on project expenditures must be submitted to the Department of Marine Resources for disbursement of approved funds.

It is the intention of the Legislature that any political subdivision seeking to qualify for tidelands funds for the subsequent fiscal year shall submit a proposal to the Department of Marine Resources no later than July 1.

All such proposals will be reviewed and evaluated by the Department of Marine Resources in accordance with department plans and procedures.

Multi-phased projects, multi-year projects, proposed projects with high dollar value and projects that have a record of stacking funds will be considered as low priority projects when evaluated.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

- Entities submitting an application packet should provide the Department of Marine Resources with **one original** application and **one copy**.
- Those entities submitting **more than one** Request for Funding application should prioritize their requests due to limitations in funding.
- Application packets should not exceed a **total of five (5) pages** in length (This includes the two page application form and 1 page summary). Keep TTF-1 to two page format. TTF-2 shall be used for additional application detail and other required information.
- Use white, letter size paper and use the front side of the page only.
- Do not staple or bind any portion of the application being submitted.
- All proposals must be received at the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources office located at 1141 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, Mississippi by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, July 1, 2013.

Thank you for your cooperation.

MISSISSIPPI TIDELANDS TRUST FUND PROGRAM
Request for Funding

INSTRUCTIONS FOR DMR Form TTF-1

<i>Application Type</i>	Check Public Access Project or Managed Project
1. <i>Title of Project</i>	Provide exact name of proposed project. If the proposed project has been funded previously, indicate the phase (I, II, III, etc.).
1.1 <i>Location of Project</i>	Provide the name of the County in which the proposed project is located.
2. <i>Requesting Agency</i>	Provide the name of the agency, city, county, or group which is requesting funding for this project.
2.1 <i>Date of Request</i>	Provide the date of this request for funding
3. <i>Funding Requested</i>	Provide the total dollar amount of funds requested from the Tidelands Trust Fund.
3.1 <i>Matching Funds</i>	Provide the total dollar amount of funds to be expended on this project from another source. Funds previously received through the Tidelands Trust Fund program are not to be considered matching funds.
3.2 <i>Source of Matching Funds</i>	Indicate the name of the source providing the matching funds.
3.3 <i>Total Project Cost</i>	Insert the total dollar amount estimated to be expended for the project; this amount should equal the sum of #3 & #3.1.
4. <i>Requesting Agency Representative</i>	Provide the name of the decision-maker who has responsibility for this project.
4.1 <i>Phone</i>	Provide the phone number of the Requesting Agency Representative identified in #4.
4.2 <i>Fax</i>	Provide the fax number of the Requesting Agency Representative.
4.3 <i>Address</i>	Provide the address and the e-mail address of the Requesting Agency Representative.
5. <i>Project Manager</i>	Provide the name of the individual who will manage this project until completion.
5.1 <i>Phone</i>	Provide the phone number of the Project Manager identified in #5.
5.2 <i>Fax</i>	Provide the fax number of the Project Manager.
5.3 <i>Address</i>	Provide the address and the e-mail address of the Project Manager.
6. <i>Applicant Priority</i>	If your organization is submitting more than one Request for Funding application, please indicate the organization's priority of this project in relation to the other projects the organization is submitting.
7. <i>Project Description/ Overview</i>	Provide a <u>brief</u> summary description of the proposed project. TTF-2 should be used for more detailed description of proposed project.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR DMR Form TTF-1, Continued

- | | | |
|------|--|--|
| 8. | <i>Project Goals</i> | List the goals and objectives of the proposed project. |
| 9. | <i>Project Benefits</i> | List the anticipated benefits which will result from the proposed project. |
| 10. | <i>Summary of Project Tasks</i> | Summarize in a list the tasks which will be required to complete the proposed project. |
| 11. | <i>Project Timetable/
Milestones</i> | Provide anticipated dates for completion of individual project tasks identified in #10. |
| 11.1 | <i>Previous Funding</i> | Indicate the fiscal year(s) in which this project has previously been funded through Tidelands Trust Fund. Write in "N/A" if not applicable. |
| 12. | <i>Categorize Benefits</i> | Categorize the anticipated benefits resulting from the project listed in #9. More than one category may be applicable. |
| 13. | <i>Project Category</i> | Check the category/categories that apply to the project. |
| 14. | <i>Other Funding</i> | Indicate and identify other sources of state/federal funding for which this project may be eligible. |
| 15. | <i>Status of A&E Plans</i> | Check one from Group 1 and one from Group 2. If not applicable, write in "N/A". |
| 16. | <i>Constituency Groups</i> | Identify any special interest groups which will be served by this project. |
| 17. | <i>Service Provided to
Constituency Groups</i> | Identify the service that will be provided to the special interest groups that were identified in #16. |
| 18. | <i>Enhancement of
Water-Dependent
Activity</i> | If this project will enhance any existing or planned activity that is water-based or dependent upon water, identify the activity. |
| 19. | <i>Project Priority</i> | Indicate whether this project is a long-term or short-term priority, as characterized by the DMR. |
| 20. | <i>MCP Goals/
Objectives</i> | Indicate how this project meets the goals and objectives of the Mississippi Coastal Program. |
| 21. | <i>Project Coordination</i> | If this project will coordinate with other existing or planned projects, identify the projects. |
| 22. | <i>Wetlands Impacts</i> | If this project will involve dredging or filling coastal wetlands, indicate the acreage of wetlands to be impacted. |
| 23. | <i>Project Schematics</i> | Attach any drawings or schematics which have been prepared for this project. |
| 24. | <i>Signature</i> | The individual indicated in #4 as the Requesting Agency Representative should sign this application. Please sign in blue ink. |

Project Selection Criteria

(Public Access Projects)

The DMR will initially determine whether a submitted proposal is eligible and whether the application contains all required information. After this initial screening, the DMR will use the following criteria to rate and rank proposals received in response to the notice of funding availability and proposal guidelines. The criteria and maximum points for each criterion are provided below. The maximum number of points is 100. **Zero points will disqualify the proposal except on Number 3 Matching Funds Criteria.** Each proposal will be judged on its own merits using the following criteria.

1. **Relevance (20 Points):** The level to which the proposed project meets the goals and objectives of the Tidelands Trust Fund Program as related to enhancement of public access.
2. **Merit (25 Points):** The level to which the proposed project shows capacity for an immediate, intermediate or long term beneficial impact/enhancement.
3. **Matching Funds (5 Points):** A consideration of the proposed level of matching funds or resources to be applied to the project.
4. **Technical Approach (10 Points):** The level to which necessary engineering and other planning/specification requirements have been supplied in conjunction with the application.
5. **Performance Competence (20 Points):** Likelihood of project's success based on the applicant's resources and personnel, as well as sufficient funding and planning of project, to include a time frame for completion of project.
6. **Technical Merit (20 Points):** An overall evaluation of the project's general technical merit.

Multi-phased projects, multi-year projects, proposed projects with high dollar value and projects that have a record of stacking funds shall be considered as low priority projects when evaluated. Based on current year and prior years' funding history, high dollar value will be interpreted as projects exceeding \$250,000.00 in Tidelands funding request.

Project Selection Criteria

(Management Projects)

The DMR will initially determine whether a submitted proposal is eligible and whether the application contains all required information. After this initial screening, the DMR will use the following criteria to rate and rank proposals received in response to the notice of funding availability and proposal guidelines. The criteria and maximum points for each criterion are provided below. The maximum number of points is 100. **Zero points in any criteria will disqualify the proposal.** Each proposal will be judged on its own merits using the following criteria.

1. **Merit (25 Points):** Intrinsic scientific value of the proposed work and the likelihood that it will lead to fundamental advancements or that it will have substantial beneficial impact on the marine resources of the state.
2. **Performance Competence (20 Points):** The capability of the investigator and collaborators to complete the proposed work as evidenced by past research accomplishments, previous cooperative work, timely communication, and sharing of findings, data and other research projects.
3. **Relevance (25 Points):** Likelihood that the work will contribute to the mission of the Department of Marine Resources and lead to improved management of coastal resources.
4. **Technical Approach (10 Points):** Availability of focused objectives and a complete but efficient strategy for making measurements and observations in support of the objectives. The approach is sound and logically planned throughout the cycle of the proposed work.
5. **Linkages (10 Points):** Connections to existing or planned studies, or demonstrated cooperative arrangements to provide or use data or other research results towards meeting the mission of the Department of Marine Resources.
6. **Cost Factors (10 Points):** Adequacy of the proposed resources to accomplish the proposed work and the appropriateness of the requested proportion of the total available funds.

FY2015 Tidelands Suggested Research Topics For Management Projects

The following research topics have been provided by DMR staff as representative of agency needs. We provide them to you as guidance in developing your applications for Tidelands Trust Fund Management Project support. This list is not all inclusive and is not intended to put limits on the applicant. The Tidelands program welcomes and encourages proposals addressing any area of Tidelands public access or Tidelands management need.

Working Waterfronts

The objective is to help reestablish the seafood industry as a viable component of the Mississippi Gulf Coast economy; to strengthen the linkages between the history and culture of the local seafood industry and the economic development community, to reestablish a connection between the harvesting of seafood, the sale of the harvest, and reestablish a connection between the harvesting of seafood, the sale of the harvest, and the purchase of the harvest by the public; to create a venue for the public's enjoyment of local seafood products and the culture associated with the seafood industry; to enhance opportunities for eco-tourism and heritage tourism; and to provide education on the seafood industry. Through proper planning and execution these projects will promote community resilience in the face of future disasters by stabilizing the local economy (livelihoods) and encourage seafood jobs to come back to Mississippi, once the seafood capital of the world. Multi-purpose commercial waterfront facilities will be developed in selected sites across the three coastal counties. These marketplace facilities will be developed in selected sites across the three coastal counties. These marketplace facilities will house a loading/unloading dock for direct and efficient transfer of fresh seafood from the commercial fishing fleet. The waterfront and seafood markets would have their own sense of place for commerce and community (seafood festivals), but would also become part of the larger sense of place that is the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Effort and Harvest in Mississippi's Blue Crab Fishery

Through Tidelands, previous study has begun to collect fishery-dependent data to provide information on the commercial harvest for the blue crab fishery. Also needed is harvest data on Mississippi's recreational blue crab fishery, which is primarily located in areas inaccessible to the commercial sector. A recreational catch per unit effort (CPUE) project would provide invaluable information that would aid in better managing the fishery. This additional information would help to assess the status of blue crab stocks in Mississippi and provide for outreach opportunities with cooperating crab fishermen.

Investigations into the Occurrence, Distribution and Habitat of Invasive Species in Mississippi Coastal Waters and Adjacent Federal waters.

Research proposals should be designed to document the occurrence, distribution and habitat of marine invasive species in Mississippi coastal waters and adjacent federal waters. The program will develop a protocol to utilize fishermen and their efforts to gather data on invasive species to include: 1) Distributing information to fishermen and seafood dealers/processors to encourage the reporting of invasive species sightings to the MDMR, 2) Conducting sampling trips in areas where invasive species may occur most frequently reported being captured, 3) Coordinate with other state and federal agencies to share data and collect tissue samples for genetic analysis.

Investigations of Tarpon (*Megalops atlanticus*) in Mississippi Coastal Waters

Research proposals should reflect: 1) efforts to expand the search area in coastal Mississippi waters to more fully document the occurrence, distribution and habitat of Juvenile tarpon, 2) Sample for large juveniles in Mississippi coastal waters; record appropriate biological and environmental data; tag (if possible with satellite tags) and release captured fish and 3) continue to assess the reproductive condition and movement patterns of adult tarpon that seasonally occur in Mississippi offshore waters.

Monitoring of Mississippi's Marine Fisheries

Proposals should be designed to collect monthly abundance, length and weight and hydrology data for selected species in Mississippi waters to be included with the long-term monitoring databases. It is anticipated that the continuation of the long-term biological and hydrological database will be necessary to interpret long-term and short-term changes in the fishery resources in Mississippi waters.

Having adequate data on the health of various shrimp, crab, oyster and finfish species populations is the foundation of fishery management. The ability to observe population health trends over a long period of time is beneficial to all user groups by providing the basic data needed to make fishery management decisions including setting seasons, size limits and bag limits and gear requirements if needed. Fisheries monitoring collection activities should include basic accepted field equipment and protocols used in the collection of marine specimens.



MISSISSIPPI TIDELANDS TRUST FUND PROGRAM

Request for Funding FY2015 (Form TTF-2, Page 1 of 1)

APPLICATION SUMMARY

Title of Project: _____

Requesting Agency: _____

Funding Requested: _____

Official Use Only

Project No. _____

Submittal No. _____

Instructions - Applicant: Summarize your Tidelands Application below. Give additional detail from TTF-1 Section 7 and include how the project will meet the requirements of the Public Trust Tidelands Act and the potential benefits that would be derived from receipt of Tidelands Trust Funds. Provide a budget summary.



MISSISSIPPI TIDELANDS TRUST FUND PROGRAM

Request for Funding FY2015 (Form TTF-1, Page 1 of 2)

Official Use Only

Project No. _____

Submittal No. _____

Application Type (Check one) Public Access Project Management Project

¹ Title of Project (Indicate phase): ^{1.1} Location of Project:	² Requesting Agency: ^{2.1} Date of Request:	³ Funding Requested: \$ _____ ^{3.1} Matching Funds: \$ _____ <small>(excludes previous funding through the Tidelands Trust Fund)</small>	^{3.2} Source of Matching Funds: _____ _____ _____	^{3.3} Total project Funds: \$ _____
⁴ Requesting Agency Representative: ^{4.1} Phone: ^{4.2} Fax: ^{4.3} Address: E-mail Address:		⁵ Project Manager: ^{5.1} Phone: ^{5.2} Fax: ^{5.3} Address: E-mail Address:		⁶ Applicant Priority: 1 st _____ 2 nd _____ 3 rd _____ Other _____
⁷ Project Description/Overview:				
⁸ Project Goals/Objectives:			⁹ Project Benefits:	
¹⁰ Summary of Project Tasks:			¹¹ Project Timetable/Milestones: ^{11.1} If this project has been funded previously through Tidelands Trust Fund indicate which fiscal years. _____	

(Attach additional sheets if necessary. Total packet should not exceed 5 pages.)



MISSISSIPPI TIDELANDS TRUST FUND PROGRAM

Request for Funding FY2015 (Form TTF-1, Page 2 of 2)

¹ Title of Project:	² Requesting Agency:	³ Amount Requested:	⁵ Project Manager:
¹² Categorize the benefits listed in #9 (more than one may apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental <input type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Identify) _____ _____ _____	¹³ Project Category (more than one may apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation <input type="checkbox"/> Reclamation <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation <input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Education <input type="checkbox"/> Public Access <input type="checkbox"/> Public Improvement <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Identify) _____ _____	¹⁴ Have other State or Federal funding sources been identified for the project? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If Yes, identify: _____ _____ _____	¹⁵ Current status of Architectural/ Engineering plans & specifications for this project (if applicable): (Check one from each group) Grp 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> In Progress <input type="checkbox"/> Ready to Bid <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Identify) Grp 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Paid For <input type="checkbox"/> Funds Budgeted <input type="checkbox"/> Funds Not Budgeted
¹⁶ Identify the constituency or interest group(s) which this project will serve:	¹⁷ Identify the service that this project will provide to the group identified in #16.	¹⁸ Will this project enhance an existing water-dependent activity? Identify the activity.	¹⁹ Project Priority: <input type="checkbox"/> Immediate/short-term <input type="checkbox"/> Deferred/long-term
²⁰ In what way does this project meet the goals and objectives of the Mississippi Coastal Program?		²¹ Does this project coordinate with other existing or planned projects? Identify the project(s).	
²² Will this project involve impacting, filling, or dredging coastal wetlands? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, what acreage:	²³ Attach project schematics or drawings as appropriate.	²⁴ Signature of Requesting Agency Representative: _____ <i>(Please use blue ink)</i>	

(Attach additional sheets if necessary. Total packet should not exceed 5 pages.)

4/2010